

***TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY JULY 20, 2010***

Present: Selectmen Rosanne Gilbert, Wes Moore, and Michael Woodworth. Others present: Clay Mitchell, Chief Reed, Larry Arend, Win Fream, Tricia Cox, Natalie Fream, Ray Buxton, Cathy Nelson Smith, Vern Glass, Kathy Bailey, Tom Bassett, and Sue McKinnon.

Call to order: 5:30pm

With regard to the Energy Grant, Wes Moore made a motion that Michael Woodworth, in his capacity as Selectman in the Town of Newfields, is hereby authorized to sign any and all contracts, affidavits, agreements or obligations on behalf of the Town of Newfields. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Chief Reed advised that he has re-submitted the COPS Grant. He should receive a decision in September.

Other items discussed with the Chief were:

Two “Blind Driveway” signs are needed. They will be ordered by Brian Knipstein.

Officer Fotheringham will graduate from the Police Academy next week.

The Town currently has a Hazardous Mitigation Plan, but does not have an Energy Operation Plan. We cannot obtain a grant for a generator for the Town Hall without an EOP. If the Selectmen want to go forward with this, a Committee needs to be formed to make up the EOP and three estimates for a generator need to be obtained.

Larry Arend and representative of the Friends of the Library met with the Selectmen. The Road Race went well although attendance was down this year.

Rosanne asked that the Certificate of Insurance for the Town be obtained next May rather than waiting until June. Natalie Fream will take care of this.

The Selectmen thanked the group for a race day without problems. They also thanked the Friends of the Library for the changes to the Library. Thanks are also given to the Seacoast School of Technology, Dave Martin, Timberland, and PEA students who volunteered for the project.

The Town Hall water and sewer bill increased substantially. Ray Buxton advised that when the Water & Sewer District was set up in the 1980's that they assigned 12 units to the Town Hall. The Fire Station is rated 4 units, the elementary school is rated 50 units, and the Library is rated at 1 unit.

The meter charge is the same for all water meters in town. The cost per gallon is half a cent. There is a minimum charge of 10,000 gallons.

The new water plant has been up and running for approximately 6 weeks. The new plant was required by the federal government to bring the water into compliance. The one million dollar bond will start being repaid next June by the 190 households that have water and sewer service.

Ray was thanked for re-locating the sign in front of the Town Hall and making it visible on both sides.

Tom Bassett met with the Selectmen to contest the interest charges added to his property tax bill. Wes Moore recused himself from the discussion due to a conflict of interest. After a discussion between Rosanne and Michael, they decided to waive the interest this one time only.

Michael asked why the roadside mosquito spraying began without the approval of the Selectmen. The Town authorized the spraying at the elections in March and last year the Selectmen asked Dragon Mosquito to start spraying earlier. Dragon Mosquito will be asked to give the Selectmen advance notice next year so that they may officially approve it.

Rosanne asked that the ordinance for in-law apartments be e-mailed to her.

The following items were signed by the Selectmen:

Checks – Timber Tax Levy – Yield Taxes Assessed – one abatement and a letter of support for the Lamprey River designation.

The taking over of dock duties was tabled until the next meeting.

The FEMA payment was discussed and the fact that payment to repair the Bald Hill Road culvert was not included. Payment from Primex for the water damage claim was reviewed. Nancy was asked to schedule the removal of the asbestos from the projection booth.

The Conservation Commission overspent their 2009 budget. The Selectmen approved a fund transfer of the overage amount from the Conservation Commission to the general fund.

The Selectmen asked to have the payables list e-mailed to them when it is compiled for checks.

Rental of the Town Hall was discussed. The Selectmen agreed to continue renting the hall.

BayRing Communications contacted the town regarding telephone services. Rosanne volunteered to speak with them.

Michael made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 15, 2010 meeting as changed. Wes seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in session.

The meeting went into a non-public session at 7:21pm per RSA 91-A:3 II. The meeting adjourned at 7:24pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer
Administrative Assistant